

Ruby master - Feature #12694

Want a String method to remove heading substr

08/23/2016 09:03 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

Status:	Closed
Priority:	Normal
Assignee:	
Target version:	
Description	
I often write codes like:	
<pre>str = 'abcdef' substr = 'abc' str[substr.size..-1] if str.start_with?(substr) #=> 'def' # or str.sub(/\A#{Regexp.escape(substr)}/, '') #=> 'def'</pre>	
I want a short hand which is something like:	
<pre>str = 'abcdef' substr = 'abc' str.lstrip(substr) #=> 'def'</pre>	
Having similar argument for String#rstrip would be nice for symmetry although we already have String#chomp(substr)	
My frequent use-case is coming from fluentd. We have remove_tag_prefix option to remove a heading substring from a tag. We currently using String#sub with a regular expression, but I feel regular expression matching is too much just to remove a heading substring. https://github.com/fluent/fluentd/blob/75005f18d48ed3d416890413fa5f83982b264c71/lib/fluent/compat/handle_tag_name_mixin.rb#L45	
Related issues:	
Is duplicate of Ruby master - Feature #6842: Add Optional Arguments to String...	Assigned

Associated revisions

Revision 10082360 - 06/21/2017 07:43 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

string.c: add String#delete_prefix and String#delete_prefix!
to remove leading substr [Feature #12694] [fix GH-1632]

- string.c (rb_str_delete_prefix_bang): add a new method to remove prefix destructively.
- string.c (rb_str_delete_prefix): add a new method to remove prefix non-destructively.
- test/ruby/test_string.rb: add tests.

git-svn-id: svn+ssh://ci.ruby-lang.org/ruby/trunk@59132 b2dd03c8-39d4-4d8f-98ff-823fe69b080e

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History

#1 - 08/23/2016 11:39 AM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

IIRC, there were proposals of lstrip and rstrip enhancement.
I'd expect them to accept char class(es), than a sub-string.

Note that rb_str_index_m accepts a Regexp too.
Calling str_strlen on it will segfault.

#2 - 08/23/2016 12:01 PM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

Thanks, I found an issue which is 3 years old <https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/issues/6842>

#3 - 08/24/2016 12:24 AM - shyouhei (Shyouhei Urabe)

- Is duplicate of Feature #6842: Add Optional Arguments to String#strip added

#4 - 08/24/2016 05:34 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Status changed from Open to Rejected

I will continue this issue on <https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/issues/6842>, let me close.

=> <https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/issues/6842> is too broad. Let us reopen this ticket, and talk about a way removing heading substr at this thread.

#5 - 09/07/2016 06:39 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Status changed from Rejected to Open

#6 - 09/07/2016 06:42 AM - mrkn (Kenta Murata)

This method removes prefix string, so I propose remove_prefix or deprefix (means remove prefix).

#7 - 09/07/2016 06:42 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

We discussed about this ticket on ruby development meeting.

Python lstrip http://www.tutorialspoint.com/python/string_lstrip.htm takes character classes as an argument, so providing a substring as an argument will introduce confusion.

We need to think of new naming. What about String#lchomp or String#remove_prefix or String#head_chop for example?

#8 - 09/07/2016 06:44 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

It seems python, perl does not have similar methods (which removes heading substr)

#9 - 09/07/2016 06:48 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Description updated

#10 - 09/07/2016 06:50 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Description updated

#11 - 09/07/2016 06:58 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Description updated

#12 - 09/07/2016 07:51 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

PHP has ltrim and rtrim (which is an alias of chop), but they are for removing a character list, not removing a substring
<http://php.net/manual/en/function.ltrim.php>

```
ltrim('foaofe', 'foa'); #=> 'e'
```

Elixir has trim_leading, but it looks different with what we want to do http://elixir-lang.org/docs/stable/elixir/String.html#trim_leading/2

```
iex> String.trim_leading("__ abc_", "_")  
" abc_"
```

```
iex> String.trim_leading("1 abc", "1")  
"1 abc"
```

Golang has the same one with what we want to do <https://golang.org/pkg/strings/#TrimPrefix> and TrimSuffix

```
var s = "Goodbye, world!"  
s = strings.TrimPrefix(s, "Goodbye,") #=> , world
```

#13 - 09/13/2016 07:10 AM - duerst (Martin Dürst)

Naotoshi Seo wrote:

Python lstrip http://www.tutorialspoint.com/python/string_lstrip.htm takes character classes as an argument, so providing a substring as an argument will introduce confusion.

"character classes" may be confusing. "a list of characters" might be more precise. There are many classes of characters that can't be expressed easily with a list. In particular because Python lstrip doesn't accept hyphens to group characters.

One way to deal with this would be to allow a Regexp that selects a single character, and apply this repeatedly. But we don't have any such concept yet.

#14 - 05/25/2017 12:24 PM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

I've created a PR <https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/1632> with a name String#remove_prefix.
I will merge if the name is acceptable.

#15 - 05/31/2017 12:37 PM - znz (Kazuhiro NISHIYAMA)

```
str.sub(/^#{Regexp.escape(substr)}/, "") #=> 'def'
```

I think ^ should be \A in description of this ticket. (and maybe in handle_tag_name_mixin.rb of fluentd too)

Which is expected?: first prefix of string only or prefix of each line

#16 - 05/31/2017 12:41 PM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

\A is correct. I updated the description, thanks.

#17 - 05/31/2017 12:46 PM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Description updated

#18 - 06/16/2017 06:11 AM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

I'd pick the name delete_prefix.

Matz.

#19 - 06/16/2017 06:26 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

Thanks! I've changed the name to delete_prefix. <https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/1632>

#20 - 06/16/2017 02:14 PM - Hanmac (Hans Mackowiak)

sonots (Naotoshi Seo) wrote:

Thanks! I've changed the name to delete_prefix. <https://github.com/ruby/ruby/pull/1632>

do we need a delete_suffix too or is that done via another method?

#21 - 06/16/2017 02:23 PM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

We have String#chomp to delete suffix, but it would be nice to have the method for symmetry. I will create another thread to discuss about it.

#22 - 06/16/2017 02:31 PM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

I made a ticket for String#delete_suffix <https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/issues/13665>

#23 - 06/21/2017 07:43 AM - sonots (Naotoshi Seo)

- Status changed from Open to Closed

Applied in changeset [trunk|r59132](#).

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